

Fall 2023



CONVOCATION

MEL & ENID ZUCKERMAN COLLEGE OF PUBLIC HEALTH



Saturday, December 16, 2023 • Centennial Hall



THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA

Mel & Enid Zuckerman
College of Public Health

Welcome

December 16, 2023

Centennial Hall
Tucson, AZ

The University of Arizona
Mel & Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health
2023 Fall Convocation

Processional

Welcome and Remarks

Iman Hakim MD, PhD, MPH '94
Dean

Recognition of Student Awards

John Ehiri PhD, MPH, MSc
Senior Associate Dean for Academic Affairs

Presentation of Graduates

Doctor of Public Health Graduates
Doctor of Philosophy Graduates
Master of Public Health Graduates
Bachelor of Science Graduates

Recessional

DEAR GRADUATES,

Congratulations! You have reached a major milestone in your academic journey! As Dean of the Mel and Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health, I am thrilled to extend my sincere congratulations to each one of you on your graduation.

Your dedication, hard work, and commitment to advancing public health have brought you to this momentous occasion.

Today, as you step into the next chapter of your life, prepared with the knowledge and skills acquired during your time here, I encourage you to reflect on the profound impact you can make in the field of public health.

The world needs passionate and skilled individuals like you to tackle the complex health challenges that we face. We must face global pandemics, and we must advocate for health equity in our diverse local communities. The education you have received here has equipped you with the tools to effect positive change in the world, and I have no doubt that you will go on to make a meaningful difference in the health and well-being of individuals and populations around the globe.

Remember that public health is not just a career but a calling—a commitment to improving the health of society. As you embark on your professional journey, stay curious, stay compassionate, and stay committed to the principles of public health. Embrace the challenges, seek innovative solutions, and continue to learn and grow.

I encourage you to stay connected with our brilliant public health community. Your fellow graduates, faculty, and the broader network of public health professionals are valuable resources as you navigate your career. Share your successes, seek guidance when needed, and continue to collaborate with others in the pursuit of healthier communities.

Once again, congratulations on your graduation! MEZCOPH is immensely proud of your achievements, and we look forward to hearing about the incredible contributions you will make to the field of public health.

I wish you all the best in your future endeavors. And always keep in mind the three P's of Public Health: Prevention, Promotion, and Protection!

Congratulations! Thank you! Bear Down!

All the Best,

Iman Hakim MD, PhD, MPH '94

Dean





ABOUT THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA MEL AND ENID ZUCKERMAN COLLEGE OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Established in the year 2000, the Mel & Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health at the University of Arizona Health Sciences delivers top-tier public health education and research to build healthier communities locally, nationally, and globally. The only nationally accredited college of public health in Arizona, with campuses in Tucson and Phoenix as well as online programs, the college enrolls hundreds of students per year across degree programs at the bachelor's degree, master's degree and doctoral levels. As a leader in public health research and practice, the College receives significant federal grant funding and continues to find solutions to public health challenges through community-based research and service programs across the Southwest and globally, including tribal communities, Spanish-language communities, and border communities.



ACADEMIC PROGRAMS OF THE COLLEGE

The **Bachelor of Arts (BA)** in Wellness and Health Promotion Practice, launched in Fall 2021, is the newest undergraduate degree available in the Zuckerman College of Public Health. The major offers students the opportunity to develop the knowledge, skills, ethics, and cultural competencies needed to provide professional wellness services and interventions. This degree, available for main campus and fully online students, includes emphasis areas in health education, health and wellness, or aging and population health.

The **Bachelor of Science (BS)**, with a major in Public Health, admitted its first students in fall 2009, and offers a broad-based public health curriculum with undergraduate emphasis area options in environmental and occupational health, global health, health promotion, health systems theory and practice, one health, and quantitative methods in public health.

An **Online Bachelor of Science (BS)** with a major in Public Health launched in fall 2016. Fully online students choose a public health emphasis area in environmental and occupational health, global health, health systems theory and practice, one health, or public health practice.

The **Master of Public Health Program (MPH)** offers a Master of Public Health degree on either the Tucson or Phoenix Campus with nine concentration areas: Biostatistics, Environmental and Occupational Health, Epidemiology, Family and Child Health, Health Behavior Health Promotion, Health Services Administration in Phoenix and Tucson, One Health, Public Health Policy and Management, and Public Health Practice in Phoenix.



The College's **Online Master of Public Health Program (MPH)** offers concentrations in Applied Epidemiology, Health Promotion, and Health Services Administration. The Online MPH program was initiated in fall of 2015.

For **Doctor of Public Health (DrPH) Program** offers an advanced, professional degree program for students who already have an MPH degree or its equivalent. Focused on developing future leaders in public health practice, this doctoral degree program offers two major concentration areas for DrPH candidates: Maternal and Child Health and Public Health Policy and Management.

The **Biostatistics MS and PhD Programs** prepare students who have demonstrated excellence in mathematics and the sciences with the skills to become research biostatisticians in academia, industry, or government.

The **Environmental Health Sciences MS and PhD Programs** were developed for graduate students who want to gain expertise in topics related to climate change, water quality and quantity and their impacts on health, and other environmental health issues. The programs launched in Fall 2010.

The **Epidemiology MS and PhD Programs** provide multi-disciplinary collaborations among program faculty and university departments, and engage state and national health institutions to provide classroom and community training opportunities.

The **PhD in Health Behavior Health Promotion (HBHP)** offers a diverse and challenging curriculum that addresses health behavior health promotion theory, knowledge and skills needed to work on health issues within the diverse communities of the Southwest U.S. Launched in 2014, the program trains students to use mixed qualitative/quantitative research methods, statistics, and grant development skills to improved community health.



RECOGNITION OF STUDENT AWARDS

Outstanding Senior Award

The *Outstanding Senior Award* is awarded to an undergraduate student who demonstrates outstanding achievements in: academic performance, internship performance, commitment to the College of Public Health and/or the College's mission statement and values, or community service.

Melissa Leon

Paola Rodriguez-Gonzalez

Public Health Service Award

The *Public Health Service Award* is awarded to an undergraduate student who demonstrates outstanding achievements in: commitment to the College of Public Health and/or the College's mission statement and values; and community service.

Samantha Sullivan

Outstanding Master of Public Health Student Award

The Outstanding Master of Public Health Student Award was initiated to recognize graduating MPH students who exhibit outstanding performance in all three of the following areas:

1 Academic Performance, **2** Internship Performance, **3** Commitment to the College of Public Health, and **4** Community Service.

Lauren Waisanen

Carly Erickson

Undergraduate Academic Honors

Undergraduate students recognized below have achieved academic excellence in their studies, based on the grade point averages going into the spring 2022 semester.

SUMMA CUM LAUDE

Meaning with highest great honor—gold honor cord

Awarded to candidates whose grade point average is 3.90 or higher

Chloe Lisowski

Kennedy Orr

Paola Rodriguez-Gonzalez

MAGNA CUM LAUDE

Meaning with high praise and honor—red honor cord

Awarded to candidates whose grade point average is 3.75 or higher

Josephine Bolyard

Melissa Leon

Lauren Pizzino

Kailey Haider

Angela Mares

Mariella Rebeka Rodriguez

Taylor Henson

Jenifer Martin

Jordan Simpson

CUM LAUDE

Meaning with praise or honor—blue honor cord

Awarded to candidates whose grade point average is 3.500 or higher

Fatima Beij

Christina Fleming

Sophia Reep

Sydney Cao

Ashley Green

Samantha Sullivan

Andrea McClutchy-Gale

Public Health Ambassadors

We are delighted to recognize our talented graduating Public Health Student Ambassadors. Our ambassadors, who are wearing salmon honor cords, provide tremendous assistance to the College of Public Health in our recruiting and admissions efforts, assist the College with our social media presence; provide outreach to campus clubs and organizations; and generally represent the College of Public Health as public health students and professionals.

GRADUATE AMBASSADORS

Shreyasi Chakraborty

Brianna Rooney

Lauren Waisanen

UNDERGRADUATE AMBASSADORS

Andrea Carmona



DOCTORAL GRADUATES

Doctor of Public Health (DrPH)

with Dissertation Topics

Maternal and Child Health

Maureen Dykinga

Topic: Promoting Health Literacy by Operationalizing a Developmental Approach to Youth Assent

Public Health Policy & Management

Brianna Rooney Scheetz

Topic: Risk Assessment as the Foundation of Healthcare Emergency Management: The Impact of Rural and Urban Differences in Factors Associated with Hazard and Vulnerability Analysis

Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)

with Dissertation Topics

Epidemiology

Collin Catalfamo

Topic: Staying Active in a Pandemic: The Relationships Between Physical Activity and Mitigation Policies and Behaviors, and COVID-19 Severity

Health Behavioral Health Promotion

Niraly Patel

Topic: Understanding the Relationship Between Adverse Childhood Experiences, Positive Childhood Experiences, and Nicotine Product Use Among College Students

Sarah Yeo

Topic: Challenges in Maternal Healthcare Access for Refugee Women in the United States: Developing a Health Care Navigation Competency Scale

MASTER GRADUATES

Master of Public Health (MPH)

with Internship Projects and Sites

Environmental & Occupational Health

Andrew Stafford

Track: Industrial Hygiene

Project: Raytheon Missiles and Defense

Site: Local Exhaust Ventilation (LEV)

evaluation and design, Noise exposure

Kyle Turcheck

Track: Industrial Hygiene

Project: Freeport McMoRan

Site: Health and Safety/Industrial Hygiene

Epidemiology

Gabriel Camacho

Project: Pima County Health

Departments' Advancing Literacy
program

Site: Pima County Health Department

Kristina Condrey

Project: SARS-CoV-2 and *Cryptococcus*

gattii VGVI surveillance in Southern
Arizona Cats

Site: Translational Genomics (TGen) North

Health Services Administration – Main Campus

Shreyasi Chakraborty

Project: Advancing Diagnostic
Stewardship program

Site: Banner University Medical Center-

Tucson

Adam Fernandez

Project: Pascua Yaqui Public Health
Reaccreditation Support

Site: Health Services Division of the

Pascua Yaqui Tribe

One Health

Thania Brinks-Zuniga

Project: Assessment for Drinking Water Quality and Potential Exposure of *H. pylori*
along the Arizona-Sonora Border Region

Site: The University of Arizona, College of Public Health and Environmental Sciences

Public Health Policy & Management

Jaclyn Larson

Project: Data Collection System for
ArizonaLEND program

Site: ArizonaLEND

Samantha Minichetti

Project: Food Allergy Awareness

Site: Kyah Rayne Foundation

Public Health Practice

Lauren Waisanen

Project: Identifying Effective Communication Strategies with Policymakers and Other
Key Stakeholders in Arizona to Promote Health Equity, Advance Public Health Policy,
and Improve Access to Care

Site: Children's Action Alliance

Applied Epidemiology – Online

Olivia Belliveau

Project: A Review of Food Insecurity and Cognitive Impairment with Sequential Hypothesis and Analytical Study Design
Site: Banner Alzheimer's Institute

Alicia Soledad Chavez

Project: Understanding the Attitudes of Subjects Towards Participating in Clinical Trials
Site: Arizona Liver Health

Megan Corr

Project: Breastfeeding intentions and outcomes among mothers who were addicted to or treated with opioids while pregnant
Site: Arizona State University's School of Social Work (Tucson), Banner UMC Tucson, and the University of Arizona

Kim Ellis

Project: Qualitative Analysis Using the National Institute on Minority and Health Disparities Framework to Identify Factors Influencing COVID-19 and Influenza Vaccination
Site: Alliance of Vaccine Literacy at the University of Arizona

Jacob Freidkin

Project: Improvement on human case prediction modeling for West Nile Virus in Maricopa County using citizen science.
Site: Maricopa County Vector Control

Hannah Heard

Project: Analysis of Postpartum Outcomes and the Influence of Payment Status Among Mothers Utilizing The Midwifery-Led Birth Center Model of Care
Site: American Association of Birth Centers Perinatal Data Registry

Cassidy Kirk

Project: Speech Outcomes Among Adult Cochlear Implant Recipients
Site: Sonoran Ear, Nose, Throat, Audiology - Audiology Department

Hannah Krause

Project: Secondary Analysis of Risk Factors of Perineal Tearing and Trauma Using the American Association of Birth Center Perinatal Data Registry
Site: American Association of Birth Centers

Anna Nguyen

Project: Title Chorioamnionitis: Sociodemographic disparities, labor characteristics and clinical outcomes within the American Association of Birth Centers Perinatal Data Registry 2007-2021
Site: American Association of Birth Centers Perinatal Data Registry

Sarah Parker

Project: Genomic Epidemiology Investigation of SARS-CoV-2 Outbreaks
Site: Arizona State University

Riley Roadifer

Project: HIV Surveillance and Analysis
Site: Maricopa County Department of Public Health

Arturo Rosales

Project: HIV Prevention Care and Treatment: A systematic review of Stated Preferences Studies
Site: The University of Arizona

Amina Saleh

Project: Prevalence Of Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA) Measured Through Clinical Isolates Obtained at a Hospital Setting
Site: Northwest medical center - Microbiology department

MaLinda Zimmerman-Cooney

Project: Seasonal influenza vaccine hesitancy among adults in Pima County, Arizona during the COVID-19 pandemic: A cross-sectional online survey including the 5C psychological scale
Site: Alliance for Vaccine Literacy

Health Behavior Health Promotion – Online

Tabark Abdelhabib

Project: Kyah Rayne Foundation (KRF) the Intersection of Social Media, Policy, and Development in Advancing Food Allergy Awareness and Prevention
Site: Kyah Rayne Foundaiton

Biftu Abdullahi

Project: Violence Prevention & Intervention: Supporting Male Victims/ Survivors in Domestic Violence Shelter
Site: 360 Communities

Elena Burr

Project: Addressing Health Disparities: A Comprehensive Public Health Needs Assessment of Three Indigenous Communities in Arizona
Site: Esperança

Jennifer Alondra Cibrian

Project: Antibiotic Stewardship Program: An Investigation of Antibiotic Prescribing Practices to Increase Appropriate Treatment/Prescribing of Antibiotics
Site: Adelante Healthcare

Charnielle Desiderio

Project: Program Planning and Evaluation to Improve Navajo Maternal and Child Health Outcomes
Site: Navajo Maternal and Child Health Project with Diné College

LaNea Desiderio-Jim

Project: Development of the Navajo Youth Risk Behavior Survey Policy and Procedures Manual for the Navajo Health Education Program
Site: Navajo Health Education Program

Laurence Ehiri

Project: Impact of COVID-19 on Chronic Disease Management in Arizona: An Exploratory Mixed Method Study
Site: Arizona Department of Health Services

Carly Erickson

Project: Promoting Awareness, Access to Care, and Articulacy Regarding Eating Disorders Through an Ecological Model Lens
Site: Center For Change

Stacy Evans McLaughlin

Project: A comprehensive needs assessment of the Tucson Unified School District's Food Literacy Program
Site: Tucson Unified School District; Food Literacy Program

Samuel Fleury

Project: Unlimited Potential Training Material Evaluation and Course Database Examination
Site: Unlimited Potential

Devin Gomez

Project: Advocacy and Public Health Policy: Campaigning for Health and Affordable Housing
Site: Family Housing Resources

Kaitlynn Heckman

Project: California State Hospital Educational Programming and Recidivism Impact Considerations
Site: California Department of State Hospitals

Master of Public Health (MPH) *with Internship Projects and Sites*

Maria Hernandez

Project: Evaluation of Arizona Health Opportunities Pathway to Excellence (AZ-HOPE) Program

Site: UAHS Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion

Francesca McKay

Project: The Importance of Disseminating Health Equity Information to Better the Lives of Minority Populations

Site: The National REACH Coalition

Silvia Menjivar

Project: Health and Housing Advocacy Through Program Evaluation and Outreach

Site: Family Housing Resources

Elizabeth Rawnsley

Project: Applying Health Behavior Health Promotion Principles in a Longitudinal Research Setting

Site: CoVHORT

Maya Sabbagh

Project: Review of Free Healthcare Screenings Provided by Corbin's Legacy

Site: Corbin's Legacy

Michael Webb

Project: Edge High School Youth Community Needs Assessment

Site: Edge High School

Glynnis Ziemann

Project: Expanding outreach and clinical resources for neurological care for uninsured patients in a community free health clinic

Site: St. Vincent de Paul Virginia G. Piper Medical Clinic

Health Services Administration – Online

Samantha Favela

Project: Assessing the Impact of Parental Knowledge, Attitudes, and Practices on Childhood COVID-19 Vaccination

Site: AZ HEROES

Hannah Green

Project: Nutritional Needs Assessment for Alzheimer's & Memory Disorders at Barrow Neurological Institute (BNI)

Site: Barrow Neurological Institute

Suzann Limb

Project: HPV Vaccination Parents' Decision-Making in an Arizona Town

Site: Mel & Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health, UArizona

Tashina Machain

Project: Implementing a Culturally Competent Native American Health Professions Pipeline Program Template

Site: American Indian-Arizona Area Health Education Center

Dr Mark Pico MD

Project: Health Equity Planning, SDOH Capture and Community Partnerships in Northern Arizona

Site: Equality Health, Accountable Care Organization, Phoenix Arizona

Terreta Taylor

Project: A Comprehensive Review of Employee Wellness Programs: Benefits, Challenges, and Best Practices for Tohono O'odham Nation Health Care Employees

Site: Tohono O'odham Nation Health Care/San Xavier Health Center

Naomi Trinidad

Project: Autism Resources and Programs: Getting Information to the Community

Site: Autism Society of Southern Arizona

BACHELOR GRADUATES

Bachelor of Science (BS)

with Internship Sites

Enviromental & Occupational Health

Melissa Leon

Site: Kiewit Bridge and Marine

Lillian Mitchell

Site: College Moxie

Paola Rodriguez-Gonzalez

Site: BEAMS, Mel & Enid Zuckerman
College of Public Health

Global Health

Fatima Beij

Site: Imam Abu Hanifa Islamic Center

Melissa Garcia

Site: Nosotros Comprometidos a Su Salud,
Mel & Enid Zuckerman College of
Public Health

Danitza Nuñez

Site: Nosotros Comprometidos a Su Salud,
Mel & Enid Zuckerman College of
Public Health

William Ortiz III

Sites: The Grow 2B Fit Foundation;
Conversations to Remember

Sophia Reep

Site: SafeLogic Alaska, LLC

Health Promotion

Sydney Cao

Site: Community Food Bank of
Southern Arizona

Elisa Chen

Site: University of Arizona Athletics

Ximena Gonzalez

Site: UArizona Sonoran Center for
Excellence in Disabilities

Morgan Danyelle Johnson

Site: Davis-Monthan Air Force Base -
Health Promotion

Angela Mares

Site: Healthy 2B Me Camp,
Zuckerman Family Center for Prevention
& Health Promotion, Mel & Enid
Zuckerman College of Public Health

Andrea McClutchy-Gale

Site: Pima County Health Department

Health Systems Theory & Practice

Jacob Aragon

Site: LifeSTEP, Psychology Department,
UArizona

Hector Cha Gonzalez

Site: Southeast Arizona Health Education
Center (SEAHEC)

Camden Downs

Site: Valley Women for Women

Bachelor of Science (BS) *with Internship Sites*

Christina Fleming

Site: Primary Prevention Mobile Health Unit, Mel & Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health

LaRiah Glasper

Site: College of Medicine – Tucson, UArizona

Alexis Gradillas

Site: UArizona Sonoran Center for Excellence in Disabilities

Taylor Henson

Site: Kyah Rayne Foundation

Danielle Jaffe

Sites: International Rescue Committee; American Heart Association Phoenix

Yesica Jimenez

Site: Campesinos Sin Fronteras

Chloe Lisowski

Sites: Pima Community College Wellness Program; College of Nursing, UArizona

Kennedy Orr

Site: Arizona Center for Rural Health

Lauren Pizzino

Sites: TMC Foundation; Davis-Monthan Air Force Base - Health Promotion

Colton VanRell

Site: UArizona BIO5 Institute

One Health

Raneesha Ellison

Sites: FRESH Research Co-op, College of Nursing, UArizona; Cuidando Los Ninos

Ashley Green

Site: Promotora ROI, Mel & Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health

Jenifer Martin

Site: Banner University Medical Center

Samantha Sullivan

Site: Jackson County Health Department

Public Health Practice

Leilani Madrid

Site: LifeAmbulance Service Inc

Jordan Simpson

Site: Kyah Rayne Foundation

Quantitative Methods in Public Health

Josephine Bolyard

Sites: Bio/Diversity Project, WISE; SAFER, Mel & Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health

Andrea Carmona

Site: Street Medicine Phoenix, Mel & Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health

Kailey Haider

Site: Department of Health Promotion Sciences, Mel & Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health

Mariella Rebeka Rodriguez

Sites: FRONTERA/BLAISER; Nosotros Comprometidos a Su Salud, Mel & Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health

Catie Ross

Site: Pima County Health Department



Congratulations Graduates!

The Office of Student Affairs wishes you only the best of luck in all your future endeavors. Go forth and make good things happen! We will miss you!

Lyn Durán
Monica Muñoz
Ashleigh Gagliano
Anaiz Acosta
Courtney Faryab
Nicole Johnson

Makele White
Michael Tearne
Mariah Albertie
Abba Versace
Kim Barnes
Yulianna Noriega

Special thanks to...

Commencement and Ceremonies Team
Grad Images
Centennial Hall Team
Sav-On Flowers
Paula Hayes
Shipherd Reed
Amber Richmond

Our Wonderful MEZCOPH Volunteers
Blanca Alderete
Joy Caron
Angel Galindo
David Gay
Erin Green
Yoonhee Jung
Oluchi Kanma-Okafor
Ramon Muñoz

Karen Tiggs

Volunteer Student Ambassadors
Patrick Halvorsen
Christina Castellanos
Saranya Madhira
Jackie Larson

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EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS

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The UArizona Mel and Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health is the only nationally accredited college of public health in the state of Arizona, with campuses in Tucson and Phoenix.



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